

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 109 are pending in the application. Paragraph 1 of the Office Action objects to the drawings since reference character 110a has been used to designate both the foundation layer and the fabric layer, and paragraph 2 indicates that claims 90 – 109 were withdrawn as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Paragraph 5 rejects claim 12 as reciting the claim element “said fibers” without sufficient antecedent basis. Paragraph 7 of the Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 6 – 12, 15 – 16, 18 – 23 and 26 – 31 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,093,481 to *Lynn et al.* Paragraph 9 of the Office Action rejects claim 2 as being unpatentable over *Lynn et al.*, in view of the Plastics Handbook, and paragraph 10 rejects claims 34, 36 – 42, 44, 46, 48, 51 – 58, 60 – 65, 67, 68, 71, 80 and 82 – 88 as being unpatentable over *Lynn et al.* in view of U.S. Patent App. No. 2004/0014382 to *MacAulay*. Paragraph 11 of the Office Action rejects claims 35, 47, 59, 73 – 75, 78 and 81 as being unpatentable over *Lynn et al.* in view of *MacAulay* in view of the Plastics Handbook. Finally, paragraph 12 of the Office Action indicates that claims 4, 5, 13 – 14, 17, 24, 25, 32 – 33, 43, 45, 49 – 50, 66, 69 – 70, 72, 76 – 77, 79 and 89 are allowable, if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

With regard to the drawings, the Office Action states that the reference numeral 110a has been used to designate both the foundation layer and the fabric layer. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection.

Paragraph 0052 describes a fabric 110 (Figure 5) as being formed from a plurality of woven rovings 112 formed from multiple substrands of commingled glass fibers 114 and polymer resin 116. Paragraph 0055 further describes a second fabric 110a (Figure 6) similar to that of 110. In Figure 7A, reference numeral 110a points to the fabric portion of the liner panel 110a after the consolidation process. Paragraph 0067 describes the inner liner panel 304 as being “formed by the consolidation process described above and includes a scrim layer 228, a glass reinforced layer 110a (the fabric layer), a barrier layer 226, a second glass reinforced layer 110 and a polypropylene surface film layer 222. Therefore, the figures consistently use reference numeral 110a to designate the fabric layer: In Figures 5, 6, 10 and 11 prior to consolidation, and in Figures 7A and 13 after consolidation. In both cases, the designated layer is the same fabric layer. For at least this reason, reference numeral 110a is being used consistently throughout the figures.

In an effort to move this case to allowance, Applicant has amended the various claims to include the limitations that were objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. In particular:

- Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of dependent claim 4, and dependent claims 13, 14 and 17 have been rewritten in independent form.
- Independent claim 20 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claims 22 – 24, and dependent claim 32 has been rewritten in independent form.
- Independent claim 34 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claims 41 and 43, and dependent claim 44 has been rewritten in independent form and to include the limitations of dependent claims 45. Moreover, dependent claim 49 has also been rewritten in independent form.
- Independent claim 58 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claims 65 and 66, and dependent claim 64 has been rewritten in independent form and to include the limitation of dependent claim 72. Furthermore, dependent claim 69 has been rewritten in independent form.
- Independent claim 73 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claims 74 – 76, and dependent claim 79 has been rewritten in independent form and to include the limitations of dependent claims 74 – 75.
- Finally, independent claim 80 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claims 87 and 89.

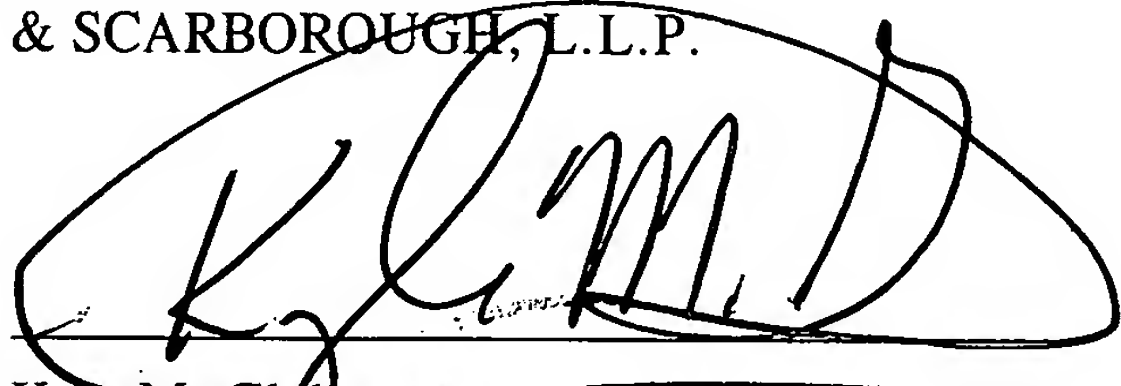
Claims 4, 22 – 24, 41, 43, 45, 65 – 66, 72, 74 – 76, 87, 89 and 90 – 109 have accordingly been cancelled. New claims 110 – 123 have been added to claim further aspects of the invention.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that claims 1 - 3, 5 - 21, 25 - 40, 42, 44, 46 - 64, 67 - 71, 73, 77 - 86, 88 and claims 110 - 123 are in condition for allowance. Favorable action and withdrawal of the present rejections and objections is, therefore, respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at his convenience to resolve any remaining issues. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1196.

Respectfully submitted,

NELSON MULLINS RILEY
& SCARBOROUGH, L.L.P.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. M. D.', is written over a horizontal line.

Kyle M. Globerman
Registration No. 46,730
P.O. Box 11070
Columbia, SC 29211-1070
(404) 817-6204
Fax (404) 817-6031